

REMARKS

By this amendment, claims 1, 9-15, 18, 30 and 33 have been amended, claims 3 and 17 have been cancelled, and claims 36-39 have been added. Accordingly, claims 1, 2, 4-16 and 18-39 are currently pending in the application, of which claims 1, 10, 15, 30, 33, 36, 38 and 39 are independent claims.

The Office Action indicated that claims 10-14 are allowed and claims 3-9, 17-23, 25-29, 31, 32, 34 and 35 are objected to but allowable if presented in independent form.

In view of the above amendments and the following Remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and timely withdrawal of the pending rejections for the reasons discussed below.

Finality of Action

The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw finality of the Office Action because a new reference has been introduced in this response.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1, 2, 15, 16, 24, 30 and 33 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U. S. Patent No. 6,406,949 issued to Kim, *et al.* ("Kim"). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection for at least the following reasons.

With respect to claims 1 and 2, in this response, independent claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of allowable claim 3. Thus, it is submitted that claim 1 is patentable over Kim. Claim 2 that is dependent from claim 1 would be also patentable at least for the same reason.

With respect to claims 15, 16 and 24, independent claim 15 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of allowable claim 17. Thus, it is submitted that claim 15 is patentable over Kim. Claims 16 and 24 that are dependent from claim 15 would be also patentable at least for the same reason.

As to claim 30, this independent claim has been amended to further recite “a first insulating layer formed over the pixel region including the pixel and the peripheral region except for the opening region, *the first insulating layer fully exposing the pad*”.

In this regard, Fig. 1 of Kim shows the insulating layer 4 partially overlapping the gate pad 21. Kim fails to disclose or suggest an insulating layer which fully exposes the gate pad 21. Thus, it is submitted that claim 30 is patentable over Kim.

As to claim 33, this independent claim has been amended to recite “removing a portion of the first insulation layer in the opening region *to fully expose the pad*”. As previously mentioned, Kim fails to show an insulating layer fully exposing the gate pad 21. Thus, it is submitted that claim 33 is patentable over Kim.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §102(e) rejection of claims 1, 2, 15, 16, 24, 30 and 33.

Claims 15 and 33 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U. S. Patent No. 6,650,394 to Kim, et al. (“Kim”). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As previously mentioned, claim 15 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of allowable claim 17. Thus, it is submitted that claim 15 is patentable over Kim.

Claim 33 has been amended to recite “forming a pad in a peripheral region of the substrate, wherein the peripheral region has an opening region and the pad is formed within the opening region, *the pad electrically connected to the pixel*”.

In this regard, as the Examiner admitted in the Office Action (Page 5), the ID mark pad 51 of Kim is merely used for identification purposes, and Kim does not disclose or suggest that the IM mark pad 51 is actually electrically connected to any pixel. Kim fails to disclose or suggest “the pad electrically connected to the pixel”, as claimed. Thus, it is submitted that claim 33 is patentable over Kim.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §102(e) rejection of claims 15 and 33.

Added Claims

In this response, claims 36-39 have been newly added to claim the invention from different perspectives. Support for these new claims should be found at least in Fig. 4G of the present application.

Other Matters

In addition to the amendments mentioned above, claims 9-15 and 18 have been amended for informality correction and better wording purposes only.


CONCLUSION

Applicant believes that a full and complete response has been made to the pending Office Action and respectfully submit that all of the stated grounds for rejection have been overcome or rendered moot. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims are allowable and that the application is in condition for allowance.

Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of this response, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's undersigned representative at the number below to expedite prosecution.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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